



FY 2004 ANNUAL REPORT of the NASHUA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION for the THE TOWN OF MILFORD

The Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) provides transportation, land use, environmental, mapping and data planning services to twelve communities in the greater Nashua area. NRPC stands ready to assist its member communities with any issue of concern. We at the NRPC are grateful for the participation of Milford's NRPC Commissioners: Bill Parker and Cynthia Herman. The following is a summary of our accomplishments for the period encompassing July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004. More detailed information about these projects and NRPC's activities can also be found at www.nashuarpc.org.

Land Use and Environmental Planning

- Worked with Milford Planning Department to conduct a Watershed Audit of the Town's land use regulations.
- Completed an analysis of the water interconnections in the Nashua Region.
- Began work on developing a Souhegan River Watershed Management Plan.
- Conducted the first meeting of the Pennichuck Brook Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Project.
- Organized five Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events.
- Organized a Souhegan River Exposition – State of the Watershed Event in Milford on May 26, 2004.
- Representing communities in the Souhegan River Watershed at Instream Flow Committee meetings until 2006.
- Reviewed and summarized the changes to the Pennichuck Watershed Buffer rules for communities in the watershed.
- Organized the yearly Land Use Planning Workshop for Planning Boards, Conservation Commission, and Departments of Public Works in May 2004.
- Held quarterly luncheons for professional Planning Staff in the Region.
- Conducted a Regional Housing Needs Assessment.
- Continued to provide ongoing assistance with planning related questions.
- Reviewed the Falcon Ridge subdivision for potential regional impacts and provided comments to the Milford Planning Board.
- Attended a Conservation Commission meeting to discuss the Regional Environmental Planning Program.

- Conducted several meetings of the Regional Resource Conservation Committee.
- Continued to provide technical assistance to the Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee.

Transportation

NRPC as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region is responsible for developing and maintaining the region's transportation planning program. This includes soliciting, prioritizing, and making recommendations on regional and local transportation projects that are funded through Federal or State sources. NRPC is responsible for developing the region's portion of the State's Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), maintaining the regional traffic model, and performing required air quality analyses. In addition, NRPC MPO funds are used to provide municipal technical assistance on transportation issues.

- Completed the Transit Plan for the Nashua Region that identifies service needs for the town.
- Provided a report to the town with traffic count data from the past few years, and updated the NRPC website to provide historic and frequently updated traffic count data.
- Conducted an on-board survey of passengers along Bus Route 9 between Nashua and Milford and provided the findings to the Board of Selectmen.
- Calibrated the updated regional traffic model for use in analyzing future regional and community-specific projects.
- Completed a road inventory of all accessible public and private roads.
- Coordinated the Transportation and Community and Systems Preservation (TCSP) pilot program for the town. This project will result in plans to improve the transportation-land use interface throughout the town of Milford, including access management, site development guidelines, and safety planning. In this program, NRPC will also prepare pedestrian, bicycle and transit plans, as well as a traffic study of priority intersections in the Town of Milford.
- Conducted traffic counts as part of NHDOT HPMS traffic counting program.
- Conducted bi-monthly meetings of the Phase II Stormwater Coalitions.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

The GIS Staff at NRPC continues to maintain a diverse collection of spatial databases including local roads, real property parcels, zoning, land use, and environmental conditions. This data is applied extensively to provide mapping and analysis for local and/or regional projects.

- Provided technical assistance to the Milford GIS Committee. Assisted the committee in carrying out an assessment of town GIS needs and priorities. Advised staff on cost effective methods for meeting the town's GIS needs.
- Provided technical and graphic assistance to the Milford Main Street DO-IT program to carry out a business inventory.

- Mapped and analyzed trends relative to real estate transactions for the year to maintain a tool for monitoring sales trends.
- Prepared and/or disseminated Census 2000 data in GIS format for local or regional reports
- Addressed numerous mapping needs from the town officials and the public
- Initiated a process for conducting an update to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment
- Continued to update and expand the regional annotation layers for improved clarity, accuracy and detail in mapping tasks,
- Developed a series of maps for the Conservation Commission defining regional water, soils and open space issues on the community.
- Completed a Build-Out Analysis of the Pennichuck Brook Watershed including an impervious surface analysis.
- Completed regular maintenance tasks and performed updates to the regional GIS data, including digitizing new roads, parcels, protected lands, zoning changes, trails, social service or child care providers, land use and other baseline data for each community
- Began work on street index map based on 2004 Road Inventory data.
- Provided mapping support for Transit Plan for the Nashua Region.

Submitted by,
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Executive Director